For ensuing the flow of timely and adequate credit to the farmers in the country including Maharashtra, a number of steps have been taken as indicated below:—

— Most of the recommendations of High Level Committee (R.V. Gupta Committee) on agricultural credit which include simplification of procedures, greater flexibility and discreation to banks in the matter of collateral/margin security, dispensing with "No Dues Certificate", cash disbursement of loans, introduction of new loan products with savings component etc. have been implemented;

— Extension of cash credit facility for meeting composite credit needs of farmers;

— Introduction of Kisan Credit Cards aimed at providing timely and adequate credit support from the banking system to the farmers for their cultivation needs;

— Banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to open specialized agricultural branches to take care of financing of high tech agricultural projects.

(b) to (d) No Sir. All the policy initiatives taken by RBI/NABARD are applicable to all the States including Maharashtra.

Production of Fruits/Vegetables in Garhwal Region

† 1279. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are unlimited prospects for the productions of fruits and vegetables in the Garhwal region in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that people have made horticulture gardens at higher places in Uttar-kashi, Chamoli, Tihri and Pauri districts;

(c) whether it is'also a fact that hilly horticulture garden of Asian level is situated at "Bharsar" in Gairsain tehsil in Chamoli district; and

(d) whether Government will select one of these districts under the scheme "Integrated Development of Horticulture", if so, by when, if not the reason therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) the horticulture garden of the State Government is situated in Bharsar of Pauri district.

(d) Government of India is implementing following schemes for horticulture development in Uttar Pradesh including all the hilly areas of the State. Selection of programme in the district is decided by State based on the priority:

(1) Integrated Development of Fruits.

(2) Integrated Development of Vegetables including Root & Tuber Crops.

(3) Establishment of Nutritional Gardens.

(4) Development of Horticulture through Plasticulture Intervention.

Besides Government of India is implementing a Pilot Project on Integrated Development of Horticulture in tribal and hilly areas in six States including Almora District of Uttar Pradesh.

Poultry Development

1280. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:—

(a) whether Government are implementing some plan schemes for the development of poultry;

(b) if so, what are those plan schemes and the States where these schemes have been implemented in Orissa State during these years;

(c) whether these plan schemes have been implemented in Orissa State during these years;

(d) if so, the fund allocation made for this purpose; and

(e) the number of people benefited under the plan scheme?'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department is implementing the following plan schemes for the poultry development: